

Applic. No.: 10/047,013

Amdt. Dated September 30, 2004

Reply to Office action of September 27, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for producing a multi-pillar vertical semiconductor transistor, the method which comprises:

producing a series of layers on a substrate such that the series of layers includes layers of different electrical conductivities;

forming a statistical mask with statistically distributed mask structures over the series of layers;

forming vertical pillar structures statistically distributed over the substrate from the series of layers by using the statistical mask to cause the vertical pillar structures to define a vertical direction and have respective layer zones with respective different electrical conductivities disposed along the vertical direction;

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forming a first electrical contact commonly electrically connected to ~~such that~~ the vertical pillar structures are electrically connected with one another at bases base sides of the vertical pillar structures for realizing a first electrical contact;

producing insulation layers on circumferential ~~walls~~ wall regions of the vertical pillar structures for circumferentially insulating the vertical pillar structures;

depositing an electrically conductive material between the vertical pillar structures provided with the insulation layers such that the electrically conductive material forms a second electrical contact; and

depositing an electrically conductive contact material for realizing a third electrical contact such that the electrically conductive contact material electrically contacts capping ~~regions~~ sides of the vertical pillar structures.

Claim 2 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises producing the series of layers by using a selective n<sup>+</sup>pn<sup>+</sup> epitaxial build-up process.

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Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises producing the series of layers by using a selective p<sup>+</sup>np<sup>+</sup> epitaxial build-up process.

Claim 4 (original): method according to claim 1, which comprises producing the series of layers by depositing alternating semiconductor layers and tunnel insulation layers such that respective layer thicknesses of the tunnel insulation layers are less than 5 nm.

Claim 5 (original): The method according to claim 4, which comprises:

depositing silicon layers as the semiconductor layers; and performing a lateral, self-limiting oxidation step for producing silicon pillar structure cores of reduced lateral dimensions subsequent to forming the pillar structures.

Claim 6 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises setting a number of the pillar structures to a desired value by using a mask selection step.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises setting a number of the pillar structures to a value between 100 and 200 by using a mask selection step.

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Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises producing the statistical mask by depositing, with a chemical vapor deposition process, a material on a surface disposed above the series of layers wherein the material forms seeds when deposited on the surface.

Claim 9 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises producing the statistical mask by depositing, with a chemical vapor deposition process, a continuous layer on a surface disposed above the series of layers and by subsequently performing an annealing step for disintegrating the continuous layer into individual seeds.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A multi-pillar vertical semiconductor transistor, comprising:

first, second, and third electrical contacts;

a substrate;

vertical pillar structures disposed on said substrate, said vertical pillar structures having respective base sides, circumferential wall regions, and capping sides, said vertical

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pillar structures being statistically distributed over said substrate;

said first electrical contact commonly electrically connected to said vertical pillar structures at said base sides;

said vertical pillar structures defining a vertical direction and having respective layer zones with respective different conductivities disposed along the vertical direction;

said vertical pillar structures including respective insulation layers provided at said circumferential wall regions such that said vertical pillar structures are circumferentially insulated;

an electrically conductive material deposited between said vertical pillar structures, said electrically conductive material forming a said second electrical contact; and

said third electrical contact commonly electrically connected to said vertical pillar structures at said capping sides.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The vertical semiconductor transistor component according to claim 10, wherein said vertical pillar structures are statistically distributed over

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said substrate in accordance with a statistical mask used for forming said vertical pillar structures.

Claim 12 (original): The vertical semiconductor transistor component according to claim 10, wherein said vertical pillar structures include, as said layer zones, a n<sup>+</sup>pn<sup>+</sup> layer series disposed along the vertical direction.

Claim 13 (original): The vertical semiconductor transistor component according to claim 10, wherein said vertical pillar structures include, as said layer zones, a p<sup>+</sup>np<sup>+</sup> layer series disposed along the vertical direction.

Claim 14 (original): The vertical semiconductor transistor component according to claim 10, wherein said vertical pillar structures respectively include at least one tunnel insulation layer zone.

Claim 15 (original): The vertical semiconductor transistor component according to claim 10, wherein:

said vertical pillar structures include, as said layer zones, at least two silicon core layer zones and a tunnel insulation layer zone separating said at least two silicon core layer zones from one another; and

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said at least two silicon core layer zones have respective silicon cores provided within said at least two silicon core layer zones, said silicon cores have lateral dimensions of less than 20 nm.

Claim 16 (original): The vertical semiconductor transistor component according to claim 10, wherein between 100 and 200 of said vertical pillar structures are provided for the vertical semiconductor transistor component.